



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection Service

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD 20737

COPY

August 11, 1994

Ms. Ann Terbush
Chief, Permits Division, OPR
NOAA/NMFS
1335 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Terbush:

This is to inform you that we have reviewed information provided on the Institute for Marine Sciences (IMS), Roatan, Honduras, regarding its marine mammal education and research facility. IMS is interested in providing a home for the twelve dolphins currently being held at Ocean World, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The IMS facility meets or exceeds the captive care and maintenance standards for marine mammals found in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). This facility does meet the AWA comparable standards requirement for export under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The information provided by this facility also verifies that it is open to the public and does offer an education program based on industry standards.

In transferring the dolphins from Ocean World to new facilities (facility), it is in the best interest of the animals to be placed together. Additionally, placement at a facility which exceeds AWA standards and provides a naturalistic setting is more beneficial to the animals. Transferring the twelve dolphins as a group to IMS would provide such a placement.

Please contact this office if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard L. Crawford
Assistant Deputy Administrator
Regulatory Enforcement
and Animal Care





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Federal Bldg.
Hyattsville, MD
20782

September 9, 1994

Ms. Ann Terbush
Chief, Permit Division
OPR, NMFS, NOAA, F/PRI
1335 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Terbush:

Due to the concern raised over the transfer of 12 bottlenose dolphins from Ocean World to the Honduras IMS facility, the Honduran Government has request to have an APHIS inspector look at their facility.

We have arranged for an inspector to go to Roatan, Honduras, to look at the dolphin facility. We will provide you with a copy of the inspectors report when it is received.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Crawford
Assistant Deputy Administrator
Animal Care
Regulatory Enforcement and
Animal Care



cc: Jeffers
Bradley
Dris 8/1

REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT AND ANIMAL CARE

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL SHEET



TO: Ann Terbush Chief Permits Div. OFFICE: OPR, NMFS	City/State: Silver Spring, MD	Office Phone #: 301 713-2289
SUBJECT: Gross necropsy report for dolphin "Troubles" from Roatan, Honduras		Fax Phone #: 301 713-0376
REMARKS: Here is a copy of the gross necropsy report on the dolphin "Trouble" from Honduras. This dolphin was dead no matter where he went. Probably won't get much histopathology unless they can get tissue samples into the USA for analysis.		
FROM: R.L. Crawford OFFICE: Asst. Dep. Adm, AC	City/State: Hyattsville, MD	Office Phone #: 301 436-4981
Number of pages including fax sheet: 3	DATE: 10/11/94	Fax Phone #: 301 436-8341

From: Gus W. Salbador, D.V.M., M.Div.
Episcopal Medical Mission
Sandy Bay
Roatan, Honduras, C.A.

To: Eldon Bolton
IMS, Anthony's Key Resort
Roatan, Honduras, C.A.

Date: 24 September 1994

Re: Postmortem Examination of a Dolphin

Species: *Tursiops truncatus*. Sex: male. Name: "Trouble"

This is a male Dolphin recently transported to Roatan from the United States was found dead early in the morning of 24 September 1994. The dolphins body appeared to be well nourished, with two small 5cm x 1cm abrasions in the skin of the ventral abdomen, apparently a result of the transport. There were no significant or remarkable other lesions except those as noted below for the following organ systems:

Lungs:

There was an prominent 5 cm circular, raised, well organized adhesion, appearing to be of some age, between the inferior lobe of the left lung and the anterior diaphragm surface. The interior surface of the trachea is dark red, with some petechia in the smaller bronchi.

Both the left and right lung surface had many raised, firm organized fibrous nodules, being small abscesses filled with white to light to yellow pus-produced pure cultures of Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Both lungs appeared swollen and red to dark red. There was areas of red hepatization and edema of both lungs affecting about 60% of the pulmonary tissue. There was gas exchange of both normal and compromised lung tissue-it floated in water. Culture of blowhole secretions were negative for bacteria. Lymphatic glands of the thoracic wall were injected and hemorrhagic. A stab culture into normal lung appearing (through a seared surface) yielded a pure culture of Pseudomonas aeruginosa bacteria.

Gastrointestinal:

The entire gastrointestinal tract was empty. There were no foreign materials seen. In the first compartment of the stomach there were 10-12 ulcers varying in diameter from 0.5-1.0 Cm.. The ulcers appeared to be non-active, dull appearing and slightly yellow and did not extend into the muscular layer of the stomach or perforate. There was bile in the lumen of the upper small intestine. There was no excessive fat in the mesentery. Mesenteric lymph nodes were normal appearing.

Eldon Bolton
Postmortem Report
24 September 1994
page two

Liver:

The liver tissue is pale grey in color, with a hint of yellow. The liver appeared to be infiltrated with fat and had slightly rounded to distinct margins. No normal appearing tissue was seen on gross evaluation of the dolphins liver.

Heart :

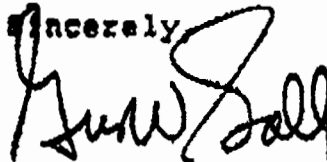
There was a few scattered petechial hemorrhage on the surface of the right and left ventricles. A stab culture of the heart was negative.

Impression:

Bronchopneumonia and liver disease (severely compromised liver).

Representative tissue samples were taken from the heart, lungs, liver, kidney, muscle, stomach, thoracic and visceral lymph nodes for histological evaluation in the United States.

Sincerely,



Gus W. Salvador,
Director

